

CALFED OPERATIONS COORDINATION GROUP
MEETING NOTES AND ACTION ITEMS
June 26, 2002

Announcements

The next meeting will be on August 7, 2002.

Review of May 22 meeting notes

Gary Carlton is a new board member.

Handouts:

1. Guidelines for 3406(b)(2) Water Banking Under Department of Interior's October 5, 1999 Decision for WY 2002, dated June 26, 2002; Paul Fujitani, USBR.
2. EWA Water Acquisitions 2001/02 (Fiscal Year), dated June 26, 2002; Jerry Johns, DWR.
3. 2003 Ops Plan, dated June 26, 2002; created by Curtis Creel, DWR, distributed by John Burke, USBR.
4. Delta Smelt and Splittail Update, dated June 26, 2002; Ryan Olah, USFWS.
5. CALFED OPS GROUP Operations Briefing, dated June 26, 2002; Curtis Creel, DWR.

SWRCB Activities

Update on SWRCB Activities

- A conference on the status of the Bay-Delta litigation was held on June 10, 2002, in the Superior Court. A series of sessions on various topics is scheduled between July 8 and October, 2002, followed by a closing and an eventual decision.
- Term 91 notices, effective through August 31st, went out to 92 applicants on June 17, 2002.
- The SWRCB approved the variance to operating the Delta Cross Channel gates for experimentation.
- The Fairfield, Vacaville, Benicia area hearing of origin water right has been scheduled for October 28 through 31, 2002. Evidence must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Friday, September 20, 2002.
- The SWRCB approved the order denying reconsideration of the Executive Directors' approval of the water level response plan and the modified conditions of that approval on May 28, 2002.
- The SWRCB declined a call for a hearing regarding the Vernalis flow standard deficiencies.
- There will be a workshop scheduled in late September regarding Phase 8 to report progress for settlements. October hearings will be scheduled if everything is ready.

On-Going Activities Related to the Ops Group

2003 Operations Plan

The 2003 Operations Plan is a means to help track issues and tasks that need to be addressed and/or implemented throughout the year. The document was reviewed to give everyone an idea of how to interpret it. The hope is to make people aware of items that need to be considered when planning project operations through 2003. Several discussions followed concerning whether a separate forum for 2003 operations development will be needed, and regarding (B)(2): (1) whether protests should be forwarded or withdrawn until a

new (B)(2) decision comes out, and (2) whether the new decision will consider other factors such as the EWA, etc.

(b)(2) Banking

Nothing was banked this year, but it would be good to have it for years when more than 800 TAF is needed. A discussion followed regarding the length of time to get banking rules in place.

Delta Cross Channel Experiment

A presentation was made and the following are its main points:

- EBMUD is preparing a study for this fall on the effect of DCC operations on salmon survival down the Mokelumne forks. This study will require complete closure of the Delta Cross Channel gates between October 7 and 11, 2002.
- USGS will collect simultaneous data on flow effects.
- Dave Vogel will follow radio-tagged fish simultaneously.
- Gate operations will need to be about one week of closure vs one week of open but exact details are being worked out with BOR and other interested parties.

Fishery Status

Barrier Update

All temporary tidal barriers are installed and fully operational. Grant Line Canal was completed in the first week of June. The flap gate controls were vandalized, leaving them fully operational up to six days prior to approved operation start date.

Status of Sacramento River Monitoring

Nothing to report in this section.

Steelhead, Winter-Run and Spring-Run Chinook Salmon

Nothing to report in this section.

Splittail

The salvage numbers for splittail are fairly low.

Delta Smelt

The latest 20-mm surveys (survey 7) show most delta smelt in the confluence area. The last 20-mm survey of the year, survey 8, is currently underway. The summer townet survey is underway. The delta smelt index will be calculated from the first two surveys.

Work Group Updates

OFF Update

A call to review the (b)(2) banking guidelines was proposed for Tuesday, July 2, between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

DAT Update

There will be no DAT calls until further notice.

Operations Status

CVP/SWP Operations Status

Releases from Lake Oroville averaged about 4,000 cfs over the past week (a decrease due to the testing of the gate at Thermalito Afterbay. An increase of releases to 7,000 cfs is scheduled for the second week of July. Weeds were treated between June 24 and June 26, 2002, in Clifton Court Forebay and Banks Pumping Plant. As a result, there were no exports at Clifton Court Forebay on June 25, 2002. Releases from Lake Shasta are at 14,500 cfs. The CVP is trying to maximize the pumping rate at the Tracy Pumping Plant. About 500 cfs of CVC water is wheeled at Banks Pumping Plant.

About 1,000 cfs is being transferred from Yuba County Water Agency (less an applicable 20% carriage water loss) and will continue through September. The opportunity to relax the E/I ratio in June could not be accomplished since outflow is controlling.

Delta Operations Criteria

Outflow is controlling. The Delta standard for July includes an E/I ratio of 65% (maximum), a minimum monthly net Delta outflow average of 5,000 cfs, and continued water quality standards.

EWA Operations

The EWA made approximately 176 TAF of export curtailments. An estimated \$26.8 million will be spent this year. There will be approximately \$12 million carried over to next year.

Action Items

None.